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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-94-123
Monday
27 June 1994

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FBIS-AFR-94-123

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Burundi

Government Rejects Involvement in Rwandan Affairs

EA2506203094 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Excerpts] An extraordinary meeting of ministers took place between from 23-24 June under the chairmanship of the interim head of state, His Excellency Sylvestre Ntibantunganya. [passage omitted]

Government ministers discussed the question of French troops being sent to Rwanda. The Burundi Government stated that it would not get involved in the internal affairs of other countries, but it asked the Rwandan warring parties to stop fighting and to continue peace talks. The government expressed its concern over the continuing killing of innocents. That is exactly the point which the interim president emphasized at the Tunis OAU summit, although according to some rumors in Bujumbura the interim president allowed France to use Burundi as a transit point for its troops to enter Rwanda. The interim president informed the Council of Ministers that this was surprising, since he had never discussed the question with the French authorities at the OAU summit. However, you should remember that some people recently staged demonstrations in Bujumbura against the dispatch of French troops to Rwanda. The Council of Ministers confirmed that, under a democratic system, every citizen is free to stage demonstrations, but should at the same time respect the relevant laws. The Council of Ministers took the opportunity to call on security services to ensure that laws are respected.

President on Political Impasse, Peace Efforts

EA2606204094 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1800 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Excerpts] The interim president of Burundi, Mr. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, today held a press conference at the Novotel Hotel for local and foreign reporters. He talked about the institution of the president, the pirate radio which can currently be heard on the national territory, security, the economy, etc. I suggest you listen to the statement he issued before allowing journalists to ask their questions. Before issuing his statement, the interim head of state said the deputy speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. Christian Sendegaya, had tendered his resignation to him. Here is President Ntibantunganya.

[Begin Ntibantunganya recording] [Words indistinct] April 1994, Burundi is once again at a political impasse without a head of state with all the powers invested in him by the Constitution. This followed the untimely death of President Ntaryamira. Since 12 April, there has been an interim presidency which ends on 12 July.

Many of you are asking yourselves several questions related to the future of this beautiful country which everyone cherishes, but which causes concern. One question lingers

on the lips of everyone: When will we have a head of state with all the powers endowed to him by the Constitution. This question is even more pressing when one sees what is happening around us, first in our country, and then in the neighboring country of Rwanda. In the light of this, people are very worried. [passage omitted]

Besides the serious, shameful and reprehensible inter-ethnic massacres, political score-settling, and all sorts of crimes which have been committed, the country today is on the verge of an abyss. Distrust among citizens, notably with reference to their political and ethnic affiliations, has reached its climax. [passage omitted]

For the last few days, pirate radio broadcasts have been heard in some parts of the country. It broadcasts messages which are contrary to peaceful co-existence between the various groups in the country, notably ethnic and professional groups. The government would like the population to note that the radio is functioning in violation of the country's laws. The government is determined to do everything to cripple it. [passage omitted]

Peace must be everyone's priority. That is why the government has been working hard all week to accelerate and finalize, through consultations between the various political and social partners, the process of establishing the institution of the president of the Republic with all the powers invested in him by the Constitution. This is an extremely strategic objective for peace and security in the country. That is why all the national political partners must combine efforts, show proof of good will, and be sensitive to the call issued to them by the Burundi people who are concerned about what they consider to be stagnation of this process. [passage omitted]

Deputy National Assembly Speaker Resigns

AB2606172094 Dakar PANA in French 1234 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Text] Bujumbura, 26 Jun (PANA)—Mr. Christian Sendegaya, deputy speaker of the National Assembly, has resigned from his post, it was learned here today from an official source. The announcement of this resignation, which observers say is a surprise, was made by Interim President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya during a news conference held to mainly brief the press on the presidential investiture expected to take place before 12 July—date on which interim period expires—in conformity with the Constitution.

Mr. Sendegaya is the deputy of Kayanza Province—located in northern Burundi—which recently was the scene of armed clashes that left dozens of civilians dead. He is also the author of the cassette: "Inciting Ethnic Hatred," according to the terms of a suit filed in court by Mr. Charles Mukasi, chairman of the former sole party, the Unity and National Progress Party [Uprona], which is now the parliamentary opposition.

This unprecedented gesture in Burundian political practices will bring back into parliament the 16 Uprona deputies who

had been boycotting the Assembly's sessions to protest the statements made by Christian Sendegyeza on his tape, according to observers. The Uprona representatives had said they would return to parliament on condition that Sendegyeza withdraws his statements.

The National Assembly comprises 81 members, 65 of whom are members of the Front for Democracy in Burundi (FRODEBU). It is expected to appoint by consensus a head of state—following discussions between the opposition and the ruling power—to replace President Cyprien Ntaryamira who was killed on 6 April in a plane crash in Kigali. Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana was also killed in that plane crash.

Mr Ntaryamira's predecessor, Melchior Ndadaye, first democratically elected Burundian president, was killed on 21 October 1993 in an unsuccessful military coup attempt.

Congo

Government Ready To Send Troops to Rwanda

AB2506195594 Paris AFP in English 1858 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] Brazzaville, June 25 (AFP)—Congo favours sending troops to Rwanda to support French troops carrying out a humanitarian mission on condition the Union of Central African States (UDEAC) asks it to at its meeting Monday [27 June] in Libreville, an authoritative source said here Saturday.

"We had planned to send troops in the framework of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda. But because of the size of task, if UDEAC decides to speed up this mission with respect to the French intervention, we are ready to do it," the source told AFP.

On Friday, the six UDEAC heads of state welcomed the French initiative.

Congo has 25 officers in Rwanda as part of the UN operation and plans to boost its contingent to 300 men.

Senegal is the only African country to have taken part in the French operation.

Rwanda

Operation Turquoise Begins; Kigali Fighting Continues

French Troops Reach Refugees

LD2406171394 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1600 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Ten thousand people demonstrated today in districts of Kigali under RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] control, shouting anti-French slogans. In the meantime, the French soldiers have continued their reconnaissance mission in the west of the country, in the zones under the control of Hutu-majority

government forces. They have made progress along the border with Zaire, as reported by France Inter special envoy, Nicolas Poincare, who is in southwest Rwanda:

[Begin Poincare recording] After they arrived in Cyangugu yesterday, the French troops moved toward the interior of the country today. The commandos have gone up north, toward a town about which they know almost nothing. They have been to the east, to a forest, where many Tutsi refugees have been hiding. Finally, they have been southward, toward Bugarama, where a refugee camp housing 15,000 people is reported to have been set up. These French soldiers are not in large numbers, they are about 200 paratroopers and marine commandos, but they seemed to be in a hurry to get on with their job. They have been met with exuberant welcome from the Hutus. The Hutu militiamen had French flags around their necks. The children carried banners on which Vive la France were written. At Nyarushishi refugee camp, the 8000 Tutsi refugees have also welcomed the French troops. These survivors of massacres were the first to be reached by the paratroopers yesterday afternoon. They said they have been under threat for weeks. [passage omitted]

These refugees are now being protected by 60 heavily armed French paratroopers. They said they slept peacefully last night for the first time for weeks. [end recording]

Dismantling of Roadblocks Ordered

AB2506142394 Paris AFP in English 1342 GMT 25 Jun 94

[By Michel Cariou]

[Text] Kamembe, Rwanda, June 26 (AFP)—Crack French troops in southwestern Rwanda on Saturday [25 June] set about ordering down roadblocks manned by Hutu militiamen accused of massacres and atrocities against the minority Tutsis.

An eight-man paratrooper team roamed the Kamembe area in a reconnaissance vehicle, a machine-gun—in position and ready to fire—mounted on the roof.

The soldiers, from France's 11th Armored Division, are part of the first French advance teams sent in from Zaire on Thursday on what Paris has said is a strictly humanitarian mission—codenamed Operation Turquoise—to protect minority Tutsis trapped in Hutu zones.

They showed no hesitation when they encountered roadblocks, and their "determination," as one French soldier put it, made Hutu militiamen understand they meant business.

The message was the same each time they hit a roadblock: "Return to your work, your fields. France is here to ensure your safety, the safety of all Rwandans. You must take down the barriers."

The patrols started combing the roads Friday in the southwest near the southern tip of Lake Kivu and just over the border with Zaire.

"All roadblocks held by civilians must disappear," said French Colonel Didier Thibaut, who heads the operation in the Kamembe zone. "They have no legitimacy. We only want to see soldiers and policemen on the road."

The firm tone is the same when the team questions the manager of the local airport. "What are these barrels blocking the runway? You think the RPF (rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front) have planes?"

When the airport manager tries to argue that there "might be pirate flights," the French captain's answer is short: "Get these out of here."

At another roadblock on a route parallel to Lake Kivu, the patrol met a civilian armed with a grenade.

"Hey you, are you a soldier?" a French troop demands. The man, clearly caught off guard, replies that he is not.

"Then give me that. A civilian has no business carrying a grenade," the French patrol orders, and the man quickly handed over the grenade without protest.

As they turned to leave, the French patrol left the man with a final warning: "We are going to come by here often and we don't want to see anyone here and no roadblocks. Understand?"

One paratrooper said the French patrols generally "had to insist" but said the Hutu militiamen were obeying orders to take down the barriers, if slowly, though many still remained Saturday.

France is committed to sending 2,500 soldiers to take part in the UN-authorized military intervention, which is to last two months.

France went ahead with the mission despite warnings from the Tutsi-dominated RPF, which blames France for arming and propping up Hutu regimes in Kigali whose forces are blamed for most of the estimated 500,000 dead since Rwanda slipped back into civil war in April.

UN spokesman Pierre Mehu in Kigali told AFP Saturday that the rebel RPF that even if it did not welcome the French troops the rebels would not fight them provided they stuck to their humanitarian mission.

Another 200 French soldiers are in Gisenyi, a key town in Rwanda's northwest where the interim government opposed by the rebels has set up after fleeing rebel advances.

Thousands of residents massed into the town when the French troops arrived in Gisenyi from Goma, Zaire, on Thursday, crying "Long Live France" and children waved French flags.

But an authoritative Rwandan source Saturday said the welcome had been staged by the local Hutu political leaders.

UN, French Commanders To Meet

LD2506221994 Paris Radio France International in French 2100 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Report by Christophe Boisbouvier in Goma]

[Excerpts] [Boisbouvier] [passage omitted] In Corfu, the European Union summit has asked for the trial of those behind the genocide in Rwanda. Europe has also expressed its support for the French operation. [passage omitted]

And now the situation in Kigali: Violent fighting took place again this morning, but subsided in the afternoon. However, the United Nations was not able to continue its humanitarian missions. (Pierre Mehu), the UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda] spokesman in Kigali, has some explanations:

[(Mehu)] The situation is still very tense. [Words indistinct] we were not able to evacuate the orphans from the Saint-Michel orphanage; we were to take them to the King Faisal hospital today, but we couldn't because of the bad security conditions.

[Correspondent Ghislaine Dupont] Do you have the impression that the Rwandan Patriotic Front is still very hostile to the French intervention operation?

[(Mehu)] I would say that their hostility has subsided. Colonel Frank Mugambage, who is the leader of the delegation at the cease-fire talks, gave a news conference yesterday. He said that the Rwandan Patriotic Front may reconsider its position—not renounce, but reconsider its position—if the French initiative is limited to the humanitarian side of things.

[Dupont] Does UNAMIR have any contact with those behind Operation Turquoise?

[(Mehu)] Well, telephone contact has been established. The commander of the general force, Dallaire, is to meet the commander of the French intervention force over the next few days.

French Commander on Operation's Progress

LD2606101594 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Text] Operation Turquoise, the French military and humanitarian mission in Rwanda, has entered its active phase.

Yesterday alone, French soldiers officially carried out four patrols within Rwandan territory from their Zairean bases in Goma and Bukavu. The strategy of the French forces is to increase the number of patrols in refugee camps. General Lafourcade, the commander of Operation Turquoise, outlined the details to Christophe Boisbouvier:

[Begin Lafourcade recording] In the north we went to Kanama some five km east of (Ndjhi), where we found

a camp housing 400 Hutus. It seems that health conditions there are not disastrous, but this remains to be confirmed. We also went to (Manyumba). We are now stepping up our effort: we have some 1,000 soldiers and around 100 vehicles. There are around 40 soldiers in Rwanda—we are sending more today on reconnaissance missions—some of them are returning to Zaire for the night. They are in the south; I will not tell you precisely where because they are on permanent reconnaissance missions. They stop at night, usually near a refugee camp. [end recording]

One thousand French soldiers and 40 Senegalese soldiers are already taking part in Operation Turquoise. What are the relations between Operation Turquoise and soldiers of the Rwandan Army? Gen. Lafourcade gives some more details:

[Begin Lafourcade recording] We have very few contacts with the Rwandan Armed Forces apart from normal courtesy contacts with the authorities to prevent errors. You will understand that it is important to avoid confusing government soldiers and rebels or poorly organized militiamen under no one's authority. So we are simply establishing contacts with the (?local) authorities and moving on to refugee camps to protect the population. [end recording]

General Says Mission 'Going Well'

LD2606132594 Paris France-2 Television Network in French 0630 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Interview with French General Jean-Claude Lafourcade, Operation Turquoise commander, by Benoit Duquesne in Goma, Zaire—live]

[Text] [Duquesne] General Germanos said yesterday that the situation was delicate because of tension at the roadblocks. Do you agree with this description?

[Lafourcade] Obviously, Gen. Germanos is speaking of our current deployment. It is always a difficult period because we are setting up a large force 8,000 km away from France, and you must understand that there are grounds for concern in an operation of this nature. That being said, let me tell you that everything is going well—you can see this for yourself. The UN resolution was adopted last Wednesday [22 June], I believe. It is now Sunday, and more than 1,000 soldiers and 120 vehicles have arrived here.

[Duquesne] Does this mean that this is only the start of the operation, that you are carrying out reconnaissance missions in Rwandan territory, and that you feel that the situation might prove delicate for yourself and for your soldiers?

[Lafourcade] We immediately got in touch with the population in a difficult situation in Rwanda, with refugee camps, although our deployment is not even fully achieved. I believe that this decision was the right one,

since we have already been able to reassure many refugees in a number of camps without going too far into the north or the south of Rwanda.

[Duquesne] A last question. You are arriving in a region controlled by government forces, where there are many Hutus. It is known that many Tutsis or moderate Hutus have been murdered. Don't you feel that you are coming a little late?

[Lafourcade] I will answer you like a soldier: A decision was made on Wednesday evening and there are already 1,000 soldiers four days later; I believe I am not too late.

[Duquesne] You were quick, but politically, wasn't it too late?

[Lafourcade] I should tell you that this is not my problem. I believe that our political negotiators who were behind this resolution wanted to ensure that the killings would be ended before the arrival of UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda] II.

Commander on Scope of Operation

LD2606201894 Paris TF-1 Television Network in French 1800 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Interview with French General Jean-Claude Lafourcade, commander of Operation Turquoise, by correspondent Patrick Poivre d'Arvor in Goma, Zaire—live]

[Text] [D'Arvor] With us is General Jean-Claude Lafourcade, who heads Operation Turquoise, that is, the whole of this French operation in Rwanda. We get the impression that the first stage of your operation is first and foremost, a diplomatic one: You have tried to convince the people you met that you were coming with good intentions.

[Lafourcade] Listen, we have begun to carry out the mission entrusted to us by the United Nations, the mission that is to put an end to the massacres in Rwanda, and we are also setting up a system that, as you can see, is a large-scale one. It will take a few days to set up this system, but we did not want to wait until we went to Rwanda to go on the first reconnaissance missions to refugee camps and start showing our faces in order to put an end to the massacres. I believe that this mission has been going well so far.

[D'Arvor] Do you intend to go further, for instance, as far as Kigali?

[Lafourcade] My UN mandate—that is, Resolution 929—does not require me to go to Kigali. My mandate is to put an end to the massacres by using force if necessary against those troublemakers who carried out all those crimes. I am starting by discovering refugee camps. We are seeing what is what there so that humanitarian organizations can see what the situation is like....

[D'Arvor, interrupting] If need be, could you evacuate them?

[Lafourcade] For the time being, there has not been any talk of evacuation at my level, but humanitarian organizations in the background are going to take care of this problem, and we have in our force a unit that is dealing with this problem, together with the humanitarian organizations.

[D'Arvor] It is obvious that your mission is to be the link until the arrival of the UN troops. Is your mandate—the precise mandate of the French forces—really going to end at the end of July, as has been said, or as the prime minister has said?

[Lafourcade] You know that some foreign countries are currently willing to take part in this UN force which will be called UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda] II. In the mandate that I have received from the United Nations—that France has received from the United Nations—there was a delay spanning about two months. I do not know how this increase has come about, but I think that, together with General Dallaire—who is in Kigali and is currently the commander of the UNAMIR I force—we will organize the hand over of the baton.

[D'Arvor] Thank you very much, General Lafourcade.

Militiamen Warned To Pull Back

LD2606103794 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Text] Despite the growing hostility of the militiamen, French paratroopers have entered Gisenyi unopposed. It is out of the question to yield to pressure from the militiamen, General Germanos, deputy chief of staff of the French Armed Forces, says.

[Begin Germanos recording] A certain number of militiamen are currently manning roadblocks on the roads along which our units are driving with the aim of reassuring the population. Faced with the very resolute stand adopted by our soldiers, who confronted the militiamen, and following a very stern warning from our men, the militiamen cleared roadblocks and pulled back. What we want, and we said so very firmly, is to prevent them from opposing in any way the action aimed at ending the killings and at controlling the situation. We will not accept that. [end recording]

RPF Shells Mount Kigali

LD2606210294 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Text] Fighting has resumed in Kigali. The Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] rebels this afternoon shelled one of the last positions held by the government army, which caused a huge fire on Mount Kigali. Major Jean-Guy Plante, the UN mission spokesman in Kigali:

[Begin recording] [Plante] This afternoon, especially late this afternoon, fighting was extremely fierce in the center of Kigali. I myself saw explosions in the town of Kigali, but not on Mount Kigali. Mount Kigali, it is true, is a

strategic (?point) which is held by the government forces. The rebel forces are trying to get hold of Mount Kigali, and the information I currently have shows that Mount Kigali is still being held by the government forces.

[Correspondent Ghislaine Dupont] Does the UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda] believe that the RPF, the Rwandan Patriotic Front, has taken new positions in the capital?

[Plante] I would say that, given the information that I have and what I saw with my own eyes this afternoon—because I went for a walk in the town of Kigali—I would say that the front, the front line, the positions are almost the same as they were a week or 10 days ago despite the extremely (?fierce) and bloody fighting that has been going on over the last few days. [end recording]

RPF Gives Conditional Acceptance to French Mission

Official Says Suspicions Remain

EA2506152594 (Clandestine) Radio Muhabura in English to Rwanda 1100 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] The Rwandan Patriotic Army [RPA] chief political commissar, Colonel Frank Mugambage, yesterday held a press conference in Kigali.

Journalists of the BBC, ABC, Finland, LIBERATION newspaper of France, and Radio Muhabura attended the press conference.

The focal point of the press conference was the presence of the French troops in Rwanda.

Asked how the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] views the French troops' presence in the country, Col. Frank Mugambage said that if the French troops came for a purely humanitarian mission, then the RPF has no quarrel with the French. But if they came with a hidden agenda of involvement in the war, then RPF is ready to defend itself. Col. Frank Mugambage explained that the RPF cannot stop bring suspicious about the French troops' presence, because the French Government has always used the pretext of humanitarian missions to intervene in the Rwandan conflict while they have other hidden interests. Col. Frank Mugambage also said that the French troops know very well that their government armed and trained Rwandan Government forces and militias, and therefore the French Government is responsible for the genocide and massacres committed in the country.

Asked what the RPF thinks about the French troops coming to Rwanda through Gisenyi and Cyangugu, an area controlled by Government forces, the RPA chief political commissar said that what is important is to know the actual reason for the French troops' presence.

Responding to a question on the Arusha peace agreement, Col. Frank Mugambage said that the Arusha peace

agreement is not yet nullified and once the war is over, RPF is ready to respect the implementation of the agreement.

Terms of Acceptance Defined

AB2606160094 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215
GMT 26 Jun 94

[Excerpts] The French operation in Rwanda, Operation Turquoise, continues. This morning, 15 French military vehicles entered Rwanda through Cyangugu, in the southwest of the country. [passage omitted]

The Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF], one of the sides involved in the Rwandan civil war, has reconsidered its position on the French intervention, which was initially seen as a declaration of war. The RPF has made it known that it will henceforth renounce its intention of fighting against French troops if they limit their operation to a humanitarian one. The RPF can, therefore, be assured of the French military authorities' good faith. The military authorities have already met RPF leaders. (Jean-Baptiste Ndaumba), the RPF spokesman whom we interviewed this morning, explains the situation.

[Begin recording] [(Ndaumba)] Following several contacts with French diplomats, France has reassured us that its presence in Rwanda is purely for humanitarian reasons. We would like to accept that view, but we would like to countercheck matters on the ground. In order to accept France's show of good faith, we are demanding that it admits to its mistakes.

Second, we are demanding that the criminals who are in France be prevented from carrying out their activities. Third, we would like France to arrest the assassins in the areas that it is controlling. On the international level, we would like France to call for the establishment of an ad hoc tribunal to judge the perpetrators of the genocide.

[Unidentified correspondent] When France says that it is intervening to save Rwandans whose lives are endangered by the war, it is alluding to Tutsis who seem to be the target of government forces. Does this not imply that France is siding with the RPF?

[(Ndaumba)] The French policy in Rwanda to date has been a disaster. It is about time France realized this without contesting we will be pleased about that. Our point is that it is not a matter of going to Rwanda to assist the Tutsis as has been said: Our movement is made up of Both Tutsis and Hutus. There are moderate Hutus, as well as Hutus in the opposition who were massacred just like the Tutsis. This dual view is, therefore, [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] You are holding government forces responsible for the massacres in the country, but it seems the RPF is not beyond reproach either.

[(Ndaumba)] Mistakes may have been made, and there may have been blunders. However, we have admitted to them and we have pledged to penalize those responsible. [end recording]

Government Officials Comment on Massacres, Uganda

LD2606203694 Paris France-2 Television Network in French 1832 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Excerpts] One of our teams, consisting of Valerie Fourniou and Jean-Francois Hoffmann, was in Hutu country today, in the Gisenyi area in the north of the country, where what remains of the legal government, which fled Kigali, has taken refuge.

[Fourniou] [passage omitted] In Gisenyi, the Meridien Hotel has become a rear base of the provisional government. All the ministers have a room there, and to meet the prime minister we will need to be escorted. Far from Kigali, dressed in military fatigues and sitting in an armchair belonging to this hotel, he will tell us that the aim of his army was never to exterminate the Tutsis:

[Begin Jerome Bicomumpaka, identified as prime minister of Rwandan interim government, recording] There was no deliberate desire by the government to exterminate any ethnic group. I think this is when people have been talking of genocide. That there should be a war, that there should be a war that could be described as ethnic or otherwise—this is not the first time that such a phenomenon has been seen in the world. So there was an ethnic clash, it is true, but there was no deliberate desire by one group to exterminate another. [end recording]

[Fourniou] Yet, outside the hotel we found men from the regime's militia, the Interahamwe, the ones responsible for numerous massacres of Tutsis, the personal guard of the minister of defense, who has also retreated to Gisenyi. At the head of 40,000 men, for him the enemy is not only the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] and the Tutsis:

[Begin recording] [Augustin Bizimana, identified as defense minister of the Rwandan interim government] I am not saying that we are just fighting the RPF. We are fighting Uganda.

[Fourniou] You consider you are at war with Uganda?

[Bizimana] With Uganda, yes. As minister of defense I can say this quite openly. We are at war with Uganda. We know that there is support from Belgium. We know the Americans—initially and wrongly, they were mistaken—supported the action by the RPF. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Zaire

Senegalese Troops Arrive To Support French Operation

LD2506134594 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1300 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] Three hundred Senegalese soldiers, who will join French troops, have arrived in Goma, the operational base established by France in eastern Zaire. The Senegalese troops are the first and perhaps the only troops of an African country to join the Turquoise force, the operation launched by France in Rwanda.

Opposition, Press Criticize French Mission in Rwanda

AB2506203594 Paris AFP in French 1138 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Jun (AFP)—Zaire's radical opposition and its press organs today continued to sharply criticize French intervention in Rwanda.

The government team formed in August 1992 by Mr. Etienne Tshisekedi, which continues to claim to be the "legitimate government of Zaire," published a communique which "strongly condemns this criminal and neo-colonialist intervention," considered "an insult to the whole of Africa." The communique, which described itself as a report "on a cabinet meeting held on 23 June under the chairmanship of Mr. Etienne Tshisekedi, prime minister and head of government," also condemns "the violation of Zairian territory by French troops."

Pro-opposition newspapers have condemned the French intervention with very critical headlines and commentaries. Writing under the heading, "The Recolonization Has Begun," LE PHARE lashes out: "Beware of the Somalia and Vietnam Syndromes." LE POTENTIEL reported on its front page: "Invasion of Rwanda From Zaire," while LE TEMPETE DES TROPQUES calls on the national and international community not to fall into "the trap" (...) of all-out disinformation" and not to see "in French fascism a mission of good omen."

Somalia

USC Blames Mogadishu Attack on Pro-Aidid Fighters

EA2406195094 *Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Text] A spokesman for the United Somali Congress [USC] said that today the Somali National Alliance [SNA] soldiers loyal to Mohamed Farah Aidid today launched attacks reopening old scars in Makka and Madina Districts in Mogadishu. The spokesman said the fighting was going on around an area adjacent to Gezira Beach and near Madina hospital.

The spokesman said that by launching the flagrant attacks, the SNA had broken the UN-brokered cease-fire agreement signed in March 1992 by the two USC factions and the SNA in order to bring peace to Mogadishu, the Addis Ababa agreement of 22 March 1993, the Hirab community agreement stipulating no further civil war and the Nairobi agreement to which 15 Somali organizations were signatories.

The spokesman wishes to inform officials of UN Operation in Somalia II, the USC communities, the Alliance of 12 [Somali Salvation Alliance, headed by Ali Mahdi Mohamed], and the peace-loving Somali people that the SNA has broken the peace agreement, and adds that the SNA will be held responsible for any problems arising from the fighting it has sparked off.

In light of the fighting, the spokesman has called on those forces fighting for the defense of Somalia's honor and sovereignty to be extra alert and to prepare to counter the SNA's provocation and aggression. Listeners, we will communicate to you any new developments in our later bulletins.

SSA Involvement in Fighting Denied

EA2606190094 *Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 26 Jun 94*

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Information and Culture has categorically denied a report broadcast last night by the BBC saying the fighting in Mogadishu was sparked off by the Somali Salvation Alliance [SSA] attack on the Somali National Alliance [SNA]. The spokesman described the BBC report as baseless and devoid of truth. He said the BBC had made it a habit to broadcast nonexistent stories in order to confuse international opinion.

The spokesman for the Ministry of Information and Culture once again made it clear to the international community and peace-loving people that the SNA was responsible for the ongoing fighting in some parts of Mogadishu city, namely Makka and Madina districts. In conclusion, the spokesman said relief operations in the city had not been jeopardized by the fighting as claimed by the BBC. He said the BBC had selfish interests to fulfill by spreading such a story.

Citizens Urged To Confront Instability

EA2606130394 *Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1100 GMT 26 Jun 94*

[Text] A statement issued by the United Somali Congress, USC, urged the entire Somali community to collectively confront the instability begun by the Somali National Alliance, SNA, in Mogadishu town. The USC added that the SNA has made a habit of creating friction among the general public living in Mogadishu, using ill-informed persons, in order to achieve its objectives. The statement further added that the USC constantly opposes shedding of blood and creating enmity and confrontation among the general public and Somali people. This has become the custom of the SNA.

The statement appealed to the international community, and especially the Somali people, to confront any groups aiming to hamper the ongoing reconciliation and peace of the Somali people. The USC believes in the principle of searching for peace and peaceful co-existence of the Somali people.

Pro-Aidid Radio: 'Troublemakers' Arming for War

EA2506204994 *(Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 25 Jun 94*

[Text] A spokesman for the Somali National Alliance, SNA, has stated that groups of troublemakers opposed to stability and peace in the country are busy creating a situation which could lead to war. He said these groups are arming themselves in preparation for war. The spokesman said the groups were the same ones which perpetrated terrorist acts and relied on foreign assistance. He said the objectives of the groups are:

1. To ensure that pacification does not take place among communities in the central regions, including the Hiiraan region, and also to ensure that the recently concluded Kismaayo agreement, which was signed by communities in the Jubbada Hoose region, is not implemented and;
2. To create insecurity, with the aim of ensuring that the proposed national conference in Mogadishu does not take place. The conference was proposed in the Nairobi agreement, was witnessed by international organizations such as the United Nations, the OAU, and leaders from friendly countries, who would like peace and harmony to return to Somalia.

For these and other reasons, the SNA spokesman said, the groups are trying to bring about a situation in which peace and dialogue are not possible. In light of this, the SNA tells the world that it will not be responsible for any consequences in the country arising from war-mongering and insecurity. The SNA once again appeals to the Somali people to guard against being used to fight each other, and to strive to maintain peace and stability in Mogadishu and throughout the country, the spokesman concluded.

Deputy Finance Minister on Need for Stable Prices

MB2406195694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1230
GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Johannesburg June 24 SAPA—Price stability is the overall social and economic strategy of President Nelson Mandela's new government, Finance Deputy Minister A.ec Erwin said Friday [24 June] in Johannesburg.

"We're not just grandstanding for international investors and the IMF (International Monetary Fund). Stable prices are fundamental to this government achieving its objectives," he told the SA Chamber of Business budget seminar.

Inflation would erode the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme and impinge more heavily on the people it was targetted at, the poor.

In addition, industrial restructuring, to improve future economic growth, could only be successful in a regime of stable prices. "We all know key industries will have to restructure. It's not just because we're a member of GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) but because the economy is just not going to grow," he said.

He believed the budget presented on Wednesday by Finance Minister Derek Keys had illustrated the government's commitment to fiscal discipline and a non-inflationary environment.

In re-ordering government's spending priorities, the government had succeeded in restraining the overall expenditure level. "It would have been a fatal mistake to increase our expenditure. It's much easier to increase your expenditure to meet your objectives. It's a lot more difficult to re-organise your current expenditure... But we're not going to spend our way out of restructuring."

Mr Erwin urged business to now take the lead in boosting investment within the disciplined fiscal framework. "If we wait for government to do nicer and nicer things, the economy will stagnate," he said. You (business) can influence government decisions by taking your own decisions. This country is going to have to grow and you have to take the lead."

Spending on Social Services Detailed

MB2506083494 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL &
GUARDIAN in English 24-30 Jun 94 p 34

[Report by Reg Rumney]

[Text] The money in the Budget for job creation demonstrates once again the difficulty of spending money allocated for certain socially desirable purposes—and the spending constraints faced by Finance Minister Derek Keys and his team.

R292-million [rand] is allocated for job creation, outside of any further money for this purpose that might come from the Reconstruction and Development Programme's [RDP] R2.5-billion fund for this fiscal year. But around R247-million of that is rolled over from the last fiscal year, with only R45-million being added to the allocation.

In general, while the RDP fund gathers steam, non-RDP spending in fields where apartheid left big backlogs is restrained.

Spending on health dropped two percent in real terms at R14-billion, although the shift in spending is seen in the rise in the primary health care portion to 25 percent of the total health care budget at the expense of secondary and tertiary health care.

Spending on social security and welfare rose 20.5 percent to R13,015-billion, yet this translates, according to the South African Council for the Aged, to a disappointing R13 a month increase in social pensions.

Spending on housing is up 15.6 percent above the amount voted for 1993/94, but at R2.2-billion falls far short of some estimates of the kind of money needed to attack the housing backlog. Again, the money will have to come from the RDP.

To be fair, spending on social services has to be looked at over a longer period to get perspective. Spending on protection, which includes defence, has declined as a percentage of total spending from 21.8 percent in the 1990/91 budget to 18.1 percent in the 1994/95 budget.

Over the same period social spending has risen from 41.3 percent to 45.0 percent, or 19.1 percent a year to make up 14.3 percent of gross domestic product.

Within social spending education has risen to 22.0 percent of the Budget, from an already high 20.9 percent—education spending represents seven percent of gross domestic product for this fiscal year. Spending by most departments was cut back to find the R2.5-billion for the RDP.

But transition costs associated with security during the election negated any "post-apartheid dividend". The disastrous National Peace-Keeping Force exercise alone swallowed up R384.5-million.

While the defence budget was cut by R650-million, transition costs push it up again this fiscal year. So spending on protection services actually rises by R2,309-billion, or 10 percent, slightly above inflation. Within that defence spending, widely seen as a source of money for diversion to social spending, rose by 13.5 percent.

And the South African National Defence Force has released a document arguing that the defence budget will have to increase in future, and cutbacks have harmed defence capabilities.

Naidoo: RDP Team Finalizing Projects

MB2606122794 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in
English 26 Jun 94 p 4

[Report by political correspondent Edyth Bulbring]

[Text] The projects President Nelson Mandela announced to kickstart the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP] would be up and running within the target he set of 100 days, Minister Without Portfolio Jay Naidoo said this week. Mr Naidoo said his RDP team was finalising the planning of projects for urban renewal and rural development.

He said that while the RDP team had not settled all the projects to account for the R2.5bn [rand] allocated to the RDP this year, initial figures on some of the expenditure had been finalised.

These would be released after further consultation with other ministers involved in the projects.

He said the projects needed to be implemented in an integrated way involving several other ministries and were not piece-meal projects.

For example, programmes for urban renewal would involve cleaning up the townships at the same time as restoring services and putting in infrastructure. The focus was public works programmes.

The projects envisaged for rural development also included a focus on health and education.

He had met on two occasions with all the premiers and task teams would be sent back to the provinces to hold further talks on implementing the projects.

In his budget speech, Mr Keys said that the government had pencilled in a further R35bn over the next four budgets for transfer to the RDP fund.

These fiscal injections represented only a part of the RDP in its entirety and would be implemented by contributions from other governments and from the private sector.

He warned, however, that the RDP could be vulnerable to two failures. The first was if the overall level of expenditure rose. The second was that if sound and attractive programmes were not produced, the departments would not be motivated to bring about future diversions of spending.

SANDEF Reduces Plane Order for RDP

MB2606120994 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in
English 26 Jun 94 p 4

[Report by Peter de Ionnio]

[Text] The SANDEF [South African National Defence Force] has reduced its order for Pilatus trainer aircraft from 75 to 60 in a package of cutbacks designed to pay

for the defence force's R650-million [rand] contribution to the Reconstruction and Development Plan [RDP].

No army bases are being closed in the coming year, but the rapid reaction force will be cut by at least half, severely reducing South Africa's ability to project force in a crisis or extend help in the form of foreign peace-keeping missions, say defence force spokesmen.

Training programmes are being shrunk and annual large-scale conventional battle exercises may be cancelled this year.

An across-the-board decision to put a hold on major equipment- development programmes short of commitment to orders will hit the already stressed defence industry.

In addition to the R650-million contribution, the SANDEF is expected to provide a further "in kind" donation to the RDP in the form of engineering equipment and training resources worth about R350-million. Discussions on these provisions began in May, but were postponed because the government could not identify specific requirements.

The funding cut defied a defence headquarters bottom-line spelt out in a crisp policy document issued before the Budget, "that a further reduction in defence spending is not feasible". The reduction is a clear signal to hawks that they can expect their wings to be clipped still further in line with public expectations and world trends.

In the document, defence force chief General Georg Meiring outlines reduced armoured vehicle and unacceptable anti-aircraft capabilities, halted production of the G6 cannon and drastic cuts in air power were already undermining the SANDEF's ability to ensure the country's defence.

Acknowledging that the absence of a foreseeable threat within five years only demands low force levels, the SANDEF's final word is that "defence spending will have to increase in future years."

With plans to increase RDP allocations progressively from departmental savings coupled to expected integration costs remaining at least R1-billion until 1997 and the still-to-be-calculated costs of retrenchments at senior level, it is difficult to see where the generals expect extra money to be found.

Lieutenant-General B.S. Raubenheimer, SANDEF Chief of Staff, Finances, says the funding cuts of 50 percent over the past six years have reduced the military to an "affordable force".

Ambassador on U.S. Market for RDP Bonds

MB2406182394 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in
English 24 Jun 94 p 1

[Article by Robyn Chalmers]

[Text] Durban—SA [South Africa] should establish a reconstruction and development bond to swiftly secure an inflow of billions of investment dollars, SA ambassador to the US Harry Schwarz said yesterday.

He said there would be no flood of US investment into the economy or the JSE [Johannesburg Stock Exchange] until SA had shown a solid record of growth and stability.

But there was burgeoning demand in the US for "socially desirable" investments.

An RDP [Reconstruction Development Programme] bond—which has been mooted by government—would provide an ideal channel for such funds, Schwarz told the SA Property Owners' Association convention. "One fund management institution I spoke to, with R500bn [rand] under its management, indicated that R25bn of these funds had been marked for socially desirable investments.

"I wish I had an SA electrification or housing bond which I could market to US investors. I am confident it would attract a lot of interest."

Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel has said that government was considering establishing an RDP bond. The bond would not form part of the RDP fund, which currently stands at R2.5bn. It is thought that the fund will get about R3bn in foreign aid over the next two years. Schwarz said it was imperative that foreign exchange controls be scrapped to encourage investment. "There will always be a reason not to bite the bullet, but if we are going to get the economy right we cannot artificially keep funds in SA. The rand must find its correct level based on criteria other than political."

Overseas investors might prefer entering SA at a discount. But on reflection they realised that the vagaries of local share and bond prices, and the political and economic situation, were enough to handle without a two-tier currency.

Schwarz said SA also had to contend with strong opinions in the US cabinet that SA should not receive foreign aid. "There is a belief that SA doesn't need aid as it is rich, there are communists in the government and if aid is forwarded, the US should receive mineral or other rights in return."

However this view was held by only some members of the Clinton administration, which was generally extremely supportive of SA's process of democratisation and the economy's reconstruction.

Rand Merchant Bank executive director Rudolf Gouws said he was pleased government had not created an RDP bond. A bond formed specifically to raise funds for the RDP would confuse the issue. It was clear from the Budget that the RDP was not viewed as an "add on", and the diversion of money to fund the RDP meant government expenditure was unlikely to soar.

Reserve Bank Official Says Government in 'Debt Trap'

MB2406192794 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 24 Jun 94 p 1

[Article by Greta Steyn]

[Text] Cape Town—Government was already in a debt trap in terms of the strict definition of the concept, Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Jaap Meijer said yesterday.

He told Parliament's joint committee on finance SA [South Africa] could still find a way out of the trap. "It does not matter that much that we have hit our head against the wall of the bunker, as it is still easy to get out. There are ways out of the bunker."

Meijer and Bank Governor Chris Stals appeared before the committee to explain the Bank's monetary policy stance. They fielded questions on the Bank's conservative position on the deficit, IMF conditionality and the reasons behind SA's large capital outflows.

Stals signalled that a reduction in interest rates was not on the card in the short term, as SA's balance of payments was still too fragile. Capital outflows, low savings and high fiscal deficits had recently placed upward pressure on interest rates, he said.

He expressed concern over the "very high" level of the deficit, saying it would start crowding out the private sector when the economic upswing gained momentum. This was in response to a question from ANC MP Max Sisulu, who questioned the "magical" 6 percent of GDP level for the deficit.

Stals was encouraged by the reduction in the deficit from 6.9 percent of GDP to 6.6 percent, but repeatedly warned that a borrowing requirement of 6 percent would become progressively difficult to finance once the private sector's demand for credit picked up.

SA was borrowing to pay interest rather than to invest. Government's interest bill was already 5.5 percent of GDP. But sluggish economic conditions had added to government's difficulties by putting a lid on revenue growth—a situation that would change.

On interest rates, he hoped there would be capital inflows in the second half, so that it would "not be necessary to raise Bank rate". If SA experienced a capital inflow over the next six months, it could lead to a "slight decline" in interest rates.

Stals also disclosed the extent to which SA's foreign exchange reserves were threatened in the run-up to the election and said the situation remained worrisome.

The Bank had arranged R11bn [rand] in shortterm foreign credit lines, of which R8.5bn had been used in the first week of May. SA's reserves were battered right up to the inauguration of President Nelson Mandela.

However, there had been a subsequent improvement which had enabled the Bank to cut its foreign exchange "overdrafts" to about R6.5bn. He hoped the borrowings could be reduced to zero by year-end.

Commenting on the financial rand, he said deposits of about R4bn in the money market would have to be run down before the Bank could consider recommending the scrapping of the dual currency system. Other prerequisites were a narrowing in the discount between the finrand and the commercial rand to 10 percent from the present level of about 23 percent, and a substantial increase in the country's reserves.

The finrand deposits had already fallen, from about R8bn 18 months ago, and the discount had narrowed. He put the finrand pool—non-resident investment mainly in SA gilts and equities—at about \$15bn.

Concern Over Spending Level Expressed

MB2606151694 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES
(BUSINESS TIMES Supplement) in English 26 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Sven Lunsche]

[Text] The government's debt-financing policies are under the spotlight after the Budget revived fears that SA [South Africa] is heading toward a debt trap.

Finance Minister Derek Keys received good news from taxpayers, whose contributions in April and May—the first two months of the current fiscal year—were substantially over budget. On the other hand he has been confronted with Reserve Bank criticism that excessive state spending has pushed SA into a "debt trap", a fact which he vigorously disputes.

Figures released by the Central Statistical Service on Friday show that revenues from taxes and customs duties in April and May at R14.2-billion [rand] to R20.4-billion, leaving a deficit before borrowing of R6.14-billion (1993: R7.84-billion).

Mr Keys has budgeted for a 10.2 percent rise in spending to R135.1-billion and a 11.2 percent increase in revenue to R105.8-billion for the year as a whole.

"While there are some technical factors coming into play, higher corporate earnings and rising consumer spending should ensure that the government's revenue targets are easily met this year," says Mike Brown, economist at stockbrokers Frankel Pollak Vinderine. He is, however, concerned that the new departments will not be able to stick to spending targets, which could raise the deficit above the budgeted R29.3-billion (6.6 percent of GDP).

Financing the deficit, the R15-billion debt of the former TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states and R7-billion losses related to gold and foreign exchange reserves will lift state debt to about R244-billion by February 1995—just under 55 percent of

projected GDP. In March this year the debt totalled R192-billion, or 48 percent of GDP, according to the Reserve Bank's latest Quarterly Bulletin.

The mounting debt burden and the high deficit have already placed SA in a debt trap, says the Bank's deputy Governor, Jaap Meijer. Using the rigorous IMF formulation of a debt trap, he says that the government needs to borrow money to pay the interest on its debt burden, which 1994/95 will amount to R24.6-billion.

Interests payments on government debt have risen by 19 percent yearly over the past five years and constitute the second largest expenditure item in the Budget, after education.

If the proportion of interest payment to total spending continues to rise, spending on other sectors, such as education, health and housing, will have to be progressively reduced. "A continuation of this trend is unsustainable and the government will have to take corrective measures," Dr Meijer says.

Appearing before Parliament's joint standing committee on finance on Thursday, Reserve Bank Governor Chris Stals also warned that the high deficit, capital outflows and low savings were placing upward pressure on interest rates.

Dr Ernie van der Merwe, head of the Bank's economic department, says, however, that government debt has not yet reached the levels where a further increase cannot be prevented, either by higher taxes or a decline in spending. "I believe that Mr Keys' commitment to a restructured tax system and a real cut in state spending will ensure that we will not be caught in a debt trap," he says.

Dr van der Merwe also points out that the ratio of public debt to GDP at 54 percent is not excessive in international terms. The European Union had prescribed a ratio of 60 percent in the Maastricht treaty.

Mr Keys dismisses fears of a debt trap. In an interview this week he said that international guidelines were not strictly applicable in SA, "where a sizeable proportion of the debt—the deficit on the state pension and provident funds—is owned by the civil service".

Editorial Urges Deregulation of Fuel Prices

MB2506120194 Durban ILANGA in Zulu 23-25 Jun 94 p 7

[Editorial published in English]

[Text] The Government's decision to raise the fuel price has again angered many consumers.

The fuel price bears no relation to what its market price should be. The reason the price of fuel is so high is because it is deliberately inflated by Government, in part to fill its own coffers, and in part because it is obligated

towards protecting inefficient state subsidised industries, such as Moss gas [Mossel Bay Gas Project] and Sasol [South Africa Coal, Oil, and Gas Corporation].

Rather than preserving an array of indirect or "hidden" taxes—such as reflected in the fuel price, amongst other prices—government should make taxes as direct as possible.

At least then the taxes would be more visible, and people would have a better idea of how much government costs them. People would no longer be temporarily confused and anguished by such contrivances as a sharp increase in the state determined fuel price.

The state could then still use its direct tax revenues for chosen areas of investment.

One of the mandarins of the old apartheid system, Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Pik Botha, opposes real deregulation of the fuel price because he believes it will lead to job losses.

This is, basically, an argument that economic inefficiency should be tolerated as long as some people make money and are employed as a result.

It is a factor which must be borne in mind when approaching deregulation. But alone it is not convincing. After all, on this basis, any kind of activity may be justified, including digging earth works with teaspoons.

Job creation must instead take place within a process of both wealth creation and development. Let the market function freely, whilst the state directs tax revenues into development.

The fact is that Sasol and Moss gas are white elephants. They were strategic industries for an economically isolated apartheid state.

They are no longer important in the way they were. Like other huge, inefficient, state-erected industries elsewhere in the world, they must now make the transition towards the market.

In doing so they may well have a market edge in certain areas, and provide goods and services which consumers want, at cheaper prices than competitors. If so they will remain viable enterprises—in these areas. But other functions probably deserve to be wound down. The funds released, as stated, could then be directed into productive avenues—avenues which provide both jobs and economic growth we need.

Concomitant fuel deregulation would mean consumers would no longer be subsidising organisations which should not be in business. The immediate effect would be a huge drop in our fuel bill.

'Tug of War' Over Intelligence Services Reported

MB2506081994 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 24-30 Jun 94 p 8

[By Stephen Laufer]

[Text] Senior government officials are squaring up for a battle over control of the intelligence services, ahead of a presidential proclamation integrating state agencies with those of the ANC and the former homelands. To be called the National Intelligence Agency, the new service will operate for an interim period prior to a fundamental reorganisation of the intelligence services.

The high-level political tug of war comes amid reports that President Nelson Mandela has agreed to cede control of intelligence matters to his deputy, F.W. de Klerk, in an apparent barter for ANC control of the police and the South African National Defence Force. Senior sources say "De Klerk is attempting to grab control of intelligence," with Mandela—who is officially minister of intelligence—still studying the implications of delegating his authority.

Intelligence officials familiar with the integration debate are understood to have advised Mandela against including intelligence in the national unity trade-off. They fear that unless the intelligence services report to the president, they could continue to function in a partisan manner. Inclined towards the NP [National Party] by tradition, they could become a powerful weapon in De Klerk's hands in the run-up to the next election.

Senior ANC officials have indicated that structures currently being finalised will ensure presidential control of the shadow services. The new intelligence dispensation is likely to include four agencies.

Military Intelligence will return to its classic role of information gathering and analysis on potential threats to the sovereignty and integrity of the country. Police intelligence could be restricted to information gathering on criminals, including international gun runners and drug dealers.

The current premier political intelligence service, the National Intelligence Service, is to be divided into two agencies, one responsible for domestic surveillance and analysis, the other involved in international work. It is unclear whether any or all of the agencies will have police powers such as the right of arrest, or whether the German model of a strict separation of powers will be followed.

A national intelligence co-ordinating mechanism, most probably a committee made up of the heads of all the agencies, will report to a state secretary for intelligence in the president's office. This is likely to be a political appointee, possibly ANC security chief Joe Nhlanhla if Mandela holds on to intelligence.

Police Promotions To Be Reviewed

MB2606122894 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 26 Jun 94 p 4

[Report by political correspondent Edyth Bulbring]

[Text] Promotions in the police over the past year are to be reviewed in the next few weeks following complaints about irregularities and dissatisfaction with standards. The discovery of irregularities would lead to the establishment of a commission of inquiry headed by a judge to assess, and if necessary, reverse promotions, according to the newly established police advisory team.

One of the irregular incidents known to the advisory team was a case in which members of the Transkei police force forced their superiors to promote them at gunpoint shortly after the election. These promotions were suspended, but there were also allegations of irregular promotions in some of the other police forces.

The 10-man advisory team, which met in Pretoria on Friday, must amalgamate the 11 police forces into one national police service.

A key issue which arose at the meeting was the criteria used by the different police forces to promote their members, and the advancement of members during the year before the election. The advisory team will recommend to Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi that these issues be investigated over the next few weeks.

A member of the team said one of the problems the team faced in rationalising the police forces was the different standards and criteria employed in promoting members.

Following an investigation, the team would finalise new standards for promotion. These would include new criteria for affirmative action.

Should the team discover gross irregularities, President Nelson Mandela was empowered by the constitution to establish a commission of inquiry to examine all promotions between April last year and September this year. The commission would have the power to confirm, reverse or amend these promotions.

Modise Willing to Testify Before Truth Commission

MB2506063894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] Defense Minister Joe Modise says he is willing to testify before the government's proposed commission on reconciliation and truth. Speaking in Cape Town, he said the ANC had nothing to hide and that everybody who was supposed to testify before the commission would do so. However, he added that he had said all that he needed to say in testimony to an internal ANC commission last year.

Mr. Modise was among ANC leaders named in that report as having perpetrated or allowed human rights

abuses in ANC detention camps in Angola. Mr. Modise's statement is a sequel to a request by nine former generals of the SADF [South African Defense Force] and the police that senior ANC members set an example by giving evidence before the truth commission. The group, including Freedom Front Leader Constand Viljoen, is demanding fairness toward all parties regarding past misdeeds.

Kasrils Rejects Generals' Concerns

MB2406195794 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] There's growing concern in right-wing circles to the proposed truth commission. A group of former police and defense force generals have called on ANC members to disclose their role in what they termed past acts of terror. The newly-appointed deputy defense minister and former MK [Spear of the Nation—ANC military wing] intelligence chief, Ronnie Kasrils, has dismissed the nine generals' call as a red herring. Ronel van Zyl reports.

[Begin recording] [Van Zyl] Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen, the only one of the group who is in Parliament, seriously questions the merits of the truth commission.

[Viljoen] We in this regard feel that it is necessary for us in the interest of our own people, but also in the general interest of the country, for peace for our country, that we should warn the people against such a commission which might have the opposite effect which the ANC has in mind about the commission.

[Van Zyl] He said equal treatment should be meted out to anyone who committed crimes in the political struggle. Mr. Kasrils, who was sworn in as deputy defense minister this afternoon, described the general's statement as totally irrelevant.

[Kasrils] We stood for indemnity. We provided the information. Our slate is clean. That's why we've been insisting those who served apartheid must do likewise.

[Van Zyl] Mr. Kasrils' appointment follows a request from Defense Minister Joe Modise for additional senior personnel to run the Defense Ministry. Mr. Modise has indicated that he's prepared to testify before the truth commission if it's expected of him. [end recording]

Zulu Royal Family Reportedly Receives Death Threats

MB2606113194 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 26 Jun 94 p 4

[Text] A prince of the Zulu royal family says about half of King Goodwill Zwelithini's royal family is currently leading a fugitive life, fearing that they will be murdered by the KwaZulu Police [KZP]. According to the prince, he has received several death threats from the KZP over the last few months.

These allegations are the latest development in the war of words between Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the Zulu royal family on the political and financial position of King Goodwill in the Inkatha-controlled regional government of KwaZulu.

Earlier this week members of the royal family issued a statement in which Mr. Buthelezi is accused of mudslinging to win Zulu support for his coalition with the ANC.

In turn, Mr. Buthelezi said that certain members of the royal family are trying to drive a wedge between him and King Zwelithini.

Political observers said the king has been trying to distance himself from Mr. Buthelezi since the April election.

Police Believe Mosad Agents Involved in Murder

MB2506100094 Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English 25-26 Jun 94 p 1, 2

[Report by Janine Lazarus]

[Excerpts] Police believe agents of Mosad—the Israeli secret service—assassinated a Johannesburg man because he was supplying Middle Eastern countries with hi-tech chemicals that could be used in the manufacture of nuclear weapons. The shock claim came from a senior police source this week during a WEEKEND STAR investigation into the brutal slaying almost three years ago of British immigrant Alan Kidger.

His horribly dismembered body was found in the boot of his luxury car, which had been abandoned in Soweto by car thieves. They had stolen the car from a Hillbrow street, unaware of its grisly contents.

The bizarre circumstances of his death—the body also had been smeared with an oily, black substance—baffled police. Media interest in the mysterious circumstances of the case intensified after the car belonging to the police's chief investigator was blown up by a limpet mine while parked in his driveway at home.

But now, for the first time, chief investigator Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Landman has revealed the internationally explosive nature of his inquiry. He is convinced the death had something to do with the murky world of secret deals related to weaponry. Kidger's involvement, in fact, could have become a threat to the international balance of power.

"We believe he was working for foreign governments and the nature of that work had something to do with the production of arms that required hi-tech chemicals," said Landman.

"Alan Kidger was involved in supplying these chemicals to Middle Eastern countries. The chemicals are used in the production of nuclear weapons.

"There is one thing for sure: this guy was dumped for a reason.

"He wasn't a gambler or involved in drugs. The murder was a hit aimed at sending a clear message. Nothing other than a hit. "It involved something only a government would be interested in."

Asked to respond to the claim of Mosad's role, a spokesman from the Israel Embassy said yesterday that it was the first time he had heard such a story. "It seems to be an imaginary story, and I cannot confirm it. I'm sure Mosad is not involved in any such activity."

Asked if he knew about all activities that Mosad were involved in, he replied: "No. Do you?"

"I can assure you Mosad have not been involved in killing anyone in South Africa," he added.

South African police have been in touch with detectives in Britain, but no arrests have been made. The investigation, said Landman, will now switch to Europe and elsewhere.

"It is very important that the investigation continues, not only in South Africa, but in other countries because Kidger travelled extensively."

Described by police as one of the most gruesome murders on the Reef in years, 48-year-old Kidger was found with his torso, buttocks, arms and legs amputated in the boot of his car near Orlando Stadium on November 9 1991—two days after he went missing.

Two car thieves who had apparently stolen his white BMW 728i, which had been dumped in Hillbrow, drove it to Soweto to remove the radio and speakers. Once there, they opened the boot and found the dismembered body.

A post-mortem established that Kidger died as a result of a blow to the head. There was virtually not a drop of blood left in his body.

"Who would go to such extreme lengths to do something like that?" asked Landman. "And why leave the body in Hillbrow as an advertisement? Was it a warning?"

The body had been "professionally" dismembered and the oily black substance that covered it contained what some chemical experts at the time thought to be a high percentage of mercury. Landman said the substance, according to police forensics report, was alkyl resin—a black substance used as isolator in paints with a high lead content. [passage omitted]

Kidger, a marketing manager for Thor Chemicals in Alberton—an international chemical producing company—was "high trained in the use of chemicals that can be used in the production of armaments." [passage omitted]

In July 1992 a Government inquiry into Thor Chemicals ended dramatically amid allegations that workers at the

Cato Ridge factory were deliberately poisoned by unknown saboteurs who "spiked" breathing equipment with a massive dose of mercury. Desmond Cowley, chairman of Thor's parent company, Thor Holdings (UK), linked the poisoning to "a long list of events which we know were sabotage, including the brutal murder of Kidger." [passage omitted]

Ambassador Denies Mosad Involvement

TA2506180194 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] A South African newspaper claims that the Israeli Mosad was responsible for the murder of Alan Kidger, a local businessman, three years ago. The newspaper quotes police investigators as saying that Kidger worked for Middle East governments and sold them chemicals used to manufacture nuclear weapons. Israeli Ambassador in Johannesburg Alon Li'el denied the report:

[Begin Li'el recording] This morning, we read the details on the front pages of the two main papers. After seeing the details of the story last night and today and the type of charges made, we have denied any Israeli involvement in the affair. [end recording]

Ramaphosa Said Asserting Influence on Government

MB2406204494 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 24-30 Jun 94 p 4

[Article by Chris Louw]

[Text] African National Congress secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa this week made his first move to assert his influence on government from outside the cabinet, when he announced major structural changes in the organization.

During a heated ANC caucus meeting on Tuesday [21 June] morning, Ramaphosa's position was strengthened when he was elected chairman of a committee to investigate the relationship between the cabinet and parliament. Caucus members accused President Nelson Mandela's government of taking decisions unilaterally and insisted that MPs have greater access to the parliamentary processes.

Ramaphosa recently refused a cabinet position. Senior members of the National Party [NP] expressed their concern at the time, arguing that he was planning to frustrate the government of national unity by influencing decisions through the ANC caucus.

According to reports, Ramaphosa was smarting because Thabo Mbeki was made deputy president instead of him. Apparently offered the portfolio of foreign affairs, by Mandela, he refused on grounds that he wanted to focus his energy on strengthening the ANC organizationally. He was later elected chairman of the Constitutional Assembly.

The latest developments were watched with concern this week by NP members. They fear that all cabinet decisions may in future be subjected to ANC caucus approval, rendering them powerless.

This, they maintain, will be "contrary to the spirit of national unity and nation-building".

It was agreed between the ANC and the NP during negotiations last year that the new government would function on the basis of "power-sharing". If the balance of power is to shift to the ANC caucus, the NP will be powerless.

The ANC caucus showed its muscle on Tuesday when it decided that a cabinet committee looking into the issue of a new capital for the country be disbanded. The four-man committee was appointed by Mandela and is led by Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer.

The caucus insisted that a more representative committee be appointed, arguing that most members of the present committee were biased towards the Transvaal.

Objections were also raised to the "untransparent" way the cabinet was functioning. MPs wanted the cabinet to seek the advice of caucus on policy issues and before any decisions were taken. Caucus chairman Mendi Msimang released an angry statement after the meeting, demanding that a new committee investigate the location of the capital.

ANC MP Raymond Suttner was reported as saying the people should be drawn into the decision-making process. "We don't want a parliament which is little more than a passive receiver of cabinet decisions."

Ramaphosa called a media conference for Thursday afternoon to announce restructuring measures taken to improve the ANC organizationally. Details were not known at the time of going to press.

Discontent Within ANC Caucus Noted

MB2606154394 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 26 Jun 94 p 11

[Report by Anne-Marie Mischke]

[Text] Tension between the ANC parliamentary caucus and party leaders in the cabinet could just be the thing that makes Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa to say to himself: "I chose well when I decided to serve the party rather than to sit in the cabinet."

He has been appointed chairman of a committee which has to look into relationships between the cabinet, parliamentary members, and ordinary ANC members. Amid tension between the caucus and the cabinet, he is being regarded by certain caucus members as the right man to be their leader.

Caucus members this week clearly expressed their discontent about cabinet decisions made without consultation with them. The days of "Yes Minister, No Minister, OK Minister" are gone, one member told RAPPORT.

The cause of discontent this week was the fact that only a small cabinet committee of four members has been appointed to investigate the position of Cape Town and Pretoria as parliamentary capitals. The caucus demands that a fully-fledged parliamentary committee should investigate the matter.

Two weeks ago individual caucus members reacted angrily to the cabinet's decision not to declare 16 June, Soweto Day, a public holiday.

RAPPORT has already earlier reported on discontent within the caucus because of appointments made by President Mandela against the will of the caucus. There was also a grouse over President Mandela's failure to attend the first caucus meetings. Ever since, say ANC members, he has only attended one caucus meeting.

Caucus members are also disgruntled that they were not informed that the cabinet had appointed Mr. Trevor Manuel as leader of the National Assembly. They maintain not only that they should have given some input regarding the appointment, but also that they should at least have been informed.

The ANC culture that leaders cannot make decisions on their own has a long history. Since the organization was unbanned four years ago, it has been insisted on that people at ground level must be consulted on important decisions. The ANC caucus is determined to continue with this culture.

ANC-NP Coalition, One-Party State Predicted

MB2406185794 Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 10-16 Jun 94 p 2

[Text] There are serious rumors that the ANC and the NP [National Party] intend to become one party at a later stage.

Perhaps it is only a section of the NP that thinks along those lines, or a section of the ANC. Nonetheless, such a development is still politically significant. It focuses attention on the NP's total opportunism.

Firstly, the NP turned its back on the right wing, and then adopted the old program of the United Party. But that was not leftist enough. It then went on to hijack the political platform of the Democratic Party, to a point where there was virtually no difference between the NP and the DP. Through the referendum, the NP completely swallowed up the DP. It would then only be in keeping with the trend if the NP united with the ANC. There are no differences in principles between the two parties. The difference lies only in color. The ANC is a party for blacks and Indians, while the NP is a white-led Colored party.

There is another reason to lead one to suspect that there could be something in the rumor. This is in keeping with plans for the left-wing's "new South Africa," concocted since 1973 by the ANC and the money powers. The primary objective had been the destruction of the Afrikaner's political power. To succeed in keeping it powerless, and to prevent any existence of an opposition, the new structures have to be made as inclusive as possible; not only the new multiracial state, but by implication also its governing party.

The next logical step will then be to promote an NP/ANC coalition, which will eventually lead to the country becoming a one-party state.

South African Press Review for 25-26 Jun

MB2606112994

[Editorial Report]

WEEKEND STAR

Limits of Tolerance—"It is time to stop talking of 'dirty tricks'" as it implies "low-scale misbehavior, peccadilloes" or "at worst, paper burglaries of the Watergate kind. Murder is not a 'dirty trick'" to be "shrugged off or glossed aside," notes an editorial in Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English on 25-26 June on page 8. "Now that an inquest court has judicially implicated the Civil Co-operation Bureau in the murder of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] advocate Anton Lubowski after five years of rumor, suspicion, slow disclosure and considerable hush-up, justice needs to proceed with dispatch and determination to an end result." While the "era behind us involved a psychosis of war" and "wrongs were done on both sides," however "a moral line must be drawn, and the moral line can never encompass cold murder." It is necessary to learn who committed what crimes "and where the chain of command stopped. The Lubowski suspects should be extradited to Namibia. Internally the truth commission should become a priority, unopposed by anyone with a clear conscience."

SUNDAY TIMES

Disclosure—"A note of desperation has crept into the attempts of Mr F. W. de Klerk's government to prevent disclosure of criminal actions committed in defense of apartheid." The "common feature" of the Windhoek inquest into the Lubowski case, the Goniwe inquest, the David Webster case and others "is that neither judicial inquiries, nor inquests, nor prosecutions succeeded in penetrating the web of deceit woven by the Nationalists," states an editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 23 June on page 28. "All these inquiries seem to peter out just below the level that would implicate either the top officers of the security services, or the politicians who guided them. The glue that holds the conspiracy together is secret amnesty and secret indemnification, in terms of laws crafted by the de

Klerk government." "We know that our present government includes killers and torturers, and people who sent them to kill and torture." "To fix responsibility for crimes or atrocities committed in the past, whether in defense of apartheid or in the struggle against it, does more than identify the guilty: it also exonerates the innocent."

THE CITIZEN

Robin Hood Budget—"It is called the Robin Hood budget, Minister of Finance Derek Keys taking from the rich to give to the poor," states an editorial in the Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 23 June on pages 1 and 2. "However the 5 percent transition levy on taxpayers and companies earning more than R50,000 [rand] is hardly confined to the rich." The "levy aside, Mr Keys produced a somewhat bland budget." He did not remove or increase the VAT [value-added tax], "imposed modest increases in excise duty on cigarettes, wines, spirits and beer," "cut the corporate tax from 40 percent to 35 percent, but raised the secondary tax from 15 percent to 25 percent." "This was to our minds a sleight-of-hand budget, socking the middle and upper-income taxpayers and giving little to the poor directly in pension and other social benefits." "In essence, what his Budget has given is fair warning that the redistribution of wealth has begun."

Their Role—While the "hand of the ANC" can be seen in some of the budget decisions, "the government as a whole has to take the blame," for "there is joint Cabinet responsibility for all decisions taken by the government and all actions by the ministers, whatever their portfolios," notes an editorial in Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English also on 23 June on page 6. With the "overwhelming" ANC "majority of votes and seats in the Cabinet, it will increasingly have its way on issues that put it into power like the Reconstruction and Development Programme and the redistribution of wealth and land. How the National Party [NP], as a junior partner in government, handles this situation remains to be seen. It can either become a comfortable ally of the ANC or a vigorous opposition party in Parliament and outside it." IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] leader Buthelezi "has an even more difficult task" since "he continues to be under attack from the ANC." "As there is no opposition of any consequence in Parliament, it is left to the NP and IFP to be standard bearers of opposition politics. Will they, especially the NP, do so? The political future of these parties and of the opposition will depend on the answers."

RAPPORT

Red Recipe—"Red lights are starting to flicker," notes a page-22 editorial in Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans on 26 June as it criticizes the appointment of Ronnie Kasrils as deputy minister of defense. "The appointment of Ronnie Kasrils, a communist activist of the highest degree as deputy defense minister, does not only give an indication of the ANC's 'security course,'

but is symptomatic of how the South African Communist Party [SACP] is quietly getting its hand on important levers of power." Another communist, Mr. Sydney Mufamadi, is already minister of safety and security, the former police portfolio. The Red recipe is clear for everyone to see: "Get control of a country's security apparatus firstly, and work further from there on." "The exact same strategy was adopted in the former Czechoslovakia, in Poland, in Bulgaria and many others." Defense Minister Joe Modise said about the appointment of Mr. Kasrils that the ANC has been very generous, as it is capable of running the country on its own, but prefers not to do it. Mr. Mandela has also referred to Mr. Kasrils as his favorite. "Indeed a meaningful remark, to say the least." Shortly after his appointment, Mr. Kasrils rejected the nine generals' disapproval of the proposed Truth commission as "irrelevant," and added that there had always been an "openness" in the ANC/SACP freedom struggle. The editorial goes on to call Mr. Kasrils a "shadowy figure" who "played a dubious role in the Bisho massacre," and concludes by asking: "What has he and his party, and by implication the ANC, up their sleeves? And which further Red strategy is quietly being devised at the SACP headquarters?"

South African Press Review for 27 Jun

MB2706111494

[Editorial Report]

BUSINESS DAY

ANC Internal Rivalry—The editorial in Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 27 June on page 8 begins by stating that the recent restructuring of the ANC shows that "the phenomenon of parliamentary versus extra-parliamentary politics...will continue long into the future." The editorial suggests that "the development of 'people's power' outside the Parliament...strengthens the hand of ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa in the contest for ANC leadership" once Nelson Mandela resigns. While, noting that the extra-parliamentary forces have opportunities "to restrain government excesses," the paper warns against efforts "to advance shortsighted, populist causes by, say, opposing attempts to impose fiscal discipline or liberalise the economy."

SOWETAN

East Rand Violence—"We urge the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] regional government of Tokyo Sexwale to make East Rand townships a top priority in the unfolding of the Reconstruction and Development Plan [RDP]." So says an editorial on page 12 of Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 27 June. The editorial charges that the causes of violence in East Rand townships are the badly deteriorated infrastructure and high unemployment. To combat the problem, the paper urges "haste in ensuring that ordinary people begin to see tangible results of the RDP." "Upgrading of

Reef townships," the paper argues, should take priority over projects such as refurbishing the Johannesburg City Hall.

BEELD

President's Example "Worthy of Emulation"—"The days are obviously past when the ANC pampered rebellious youngsters who refused to go to school," says an editorial on page 6 of the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 20 June. "Hence President Mandela's blunt words last week to the youth on the anniversary of the 16 June uprising: Roll up your sleeves, forget about protest, and tackle the country's problems in a culture of education and reconciliation. The message is not new. The difference is that this time it comes from a democratically elected president whose government has to deal with the enormous problems arising from the disruption of schools in the townships in recent years.... President Mandela emphasized his concern over the youth by adding that he will forfeit one-third of his salary to a fund to help street children, and children in detention, and poor children who wish to study. It is an example worthy of emulation by his political colleagues, the youth, teachers, and parents."

Concern Over Truth Commission 'Not Unfounded'—The Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 21 June says in a page-10 editorial: "The concern of the Commissioner of Police Services over the damaging consequences of the Commission of Truth on certain ANC members in government will be taken with a pinch of salt

in some circles.... But his opposition to such a commission could possibly have more to do with the reasonably general fear in the inner circles of the old regime—in political and security circles—that only the sins of apartheid will be exposed, and that they alone will have to pay the price. If that is what the commissioner fears, he should say so outright. His fears are apparently not totally unfounded. By spelling out his opposition to the commission honestly, he will achieve more and hopefully ensure that the commission exposes the whole truth and, more important, achieves genuine reconciliation. The commission will only succeed in its aim if it is seen to be fair and just towards all parties, and if it probes in all directions impartially. If that is what the police chief is aiming at, then he ought to be given support."

Child Health and Care—A second editorial on page 10 of the same issue of BEELD says: "It is disturbing that South Africa has fallen so far behind in the provision of health and other care to its children.... According to the UN Children's Fund, 16 African countries have attained a better standard of living for their children than South Africa, the continent's most prosperous country. Part of the solution lies in the provision of more and better health services, particularly among the neglected part of the population." But this, together with "the provision of specialized treatment where necessary," is not the whole solution. "To improve the living standards of the children, it is further necessary to persuade parents that smaller families are in everyone's interests.... The legitimacy of the new government offers it a golden opportunity to tackle this sensitive issue."

Angola

Beye Meets With Leaders; No Plans for Summit

*MB2406132594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Report by correspondent Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, UN special representative in Angola, and the troika of observers have just returned from South Africa where they met with President Nelson Mandela. The South African leader is willing to help resolve the Angolan dispute by peaceful means.

Beye is about to leave for Luanda to meet President of the Republic Jose Eduardo dos Santos, probably this afternoon. Beye will go to Huambo tomorrow to meet Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA].

A UN Angola Verification Mission source told Radio Nacional de Angola a while ago that for the time being there will be no summit as was reported. There will be consultations, either in Angola or South Africa.

Government and UNITA negotiators did not meet this morning. They could meet this afternoon to begin discussing the application of national reconciliation modalities. These include the integration of Jonas Savimbi into Angola's political life.

Says Talks Still Progressing

*MB2406184894 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Report by correspondent Chris Simpson in Lusaka]

[Text] The United Nations special representative, Alioune Blondin Beye, has been busy shuttling around southern Africa. He has just returned to Luanda from South Africa where he had talks with President Mandela. After consultations with President dos Santos he is heading back to Lusaka. In spite of the snail pace negotiations and the fierceness of the fighting, Mr. Beye is apparently not a man to despair. From Luanda, Chris Simpson reports.

Alioune Blondin Beye reiterated once again that he was still optimistic about the prospects of peace in Angola and that the Lusaka talks are still moving toward a settlement. He acknowledged that Angolans in cities like Kuito and Malanje were in a terrible predicament and that the current phase of fighting was the worst for months, but he refused to succumb to pessimism. Mr. Beye is meeting President Jose Eduardo dos Santos this evening and confirmed he will be returning to Lusaka tomorrow, which may rule out another meeting with UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi in Huambo.

Mr. Beye stressed that it was a top priority to get UN aid flights back on track, but so far, it has not been possible, with UNITA yet to give its approval. The head of the

UN World Food Program in Angola, Philippe Borel, warned today that cities like Malanje cut off for more than a month were likely to slide back to the state they were in several months ago, with hundreds of people dying. It is a tragedy, he said.

There is no hint of any let-up in the fighting inside Angola, with Angolan National Radio again reporting fierce clashes in Kuito, with 30 deaths today.

Comments on Mandela's Role

*MB2406203294 Luanda TPA Television Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Interview with UN representative Alioune Blondin Beye by unidentified correspondent in Luanda on 24 June—recorded]

[Text] President of the Republic Jose Eduardo dos Santos today received Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola and mediator at the peace talks in Lusaka. He also received the Brazilian Ambassador to Portugal.

The audience granted to Alioune Blondin Beye lasted about 40 minutes. Beye arrived in Luanda today from South Africa where he received assurances of the personal engagement of President Nelson Mandela in the peace process.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] I would like to know if the Angolan peace talks will be transferred from Lusaka to any South African city.

[Beye] It is true that I was in Cape Town yesterday to meet with President Mandela. It was, therefore, normal for me to come to Luanda today to meet the president of the Republic. Our meeting obviously centered on the peace process.

[Correspondent] We should not think that the peace talks will be transferred to South Africa, given the readiness expressed by President Mandela?

[Beye] As you are aware, I have on several occasions visited heads of state of countries neighboring Angola. The visit to President Mandela, the president of a democratic South Africa, is therefore normal. He can certainly contribute toward the peace process.

[Correspondent] What will happen after 30 June, that is, after the meeting of the UN Security Council?

[Beye] At present it is difficult to give a reply, because, the UN Security Council is examining the situation in Angola and as an international official, I cannot speak about a decision that the UN Security Council has yet to take. I can say, however, that the international community is concerned with the Angolan problem and it will not remain indifferent.

[Correspondent] Mr. Beye, the war is intensifying in Angola at a gigantic pace, while peace talks in Lusaka are

moving at a chameleon's pace. Is it possible to speak of deadlines in the peace talks?

[Beye] That is true, but there was a worse situation in August and September last year. Despite that, we began talks in Lusaka and we have made progress. Last week Dr. Savimbi told me that 90 percent of the work has been done. All the same, it is also true that in the past days or weeks, the military situation has deteriorated and this does not help the peace talks and the humanitarian action.

[Correspondent] A last question, Mr. Beye. Only 10 percent of the work remains to establish peace in Angola. Can we then say that peace is a fait accompli, that the 10 percent will not make the war continue?

[Beye] I am convinced that we can bring peace to Angola because the Angolan people want peace. The role of the press is to make the Angolan people believe in peace and in that way peace will be irreversible. I know that we are facing very difficult periods but I know that there will be light at the end of the tunnel. [end recording]

Alioune Blondin Beye is also expected to meet with Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura. He leaves for Lusaka tomorrow.

MPLA Official Comments on Lusaka Peace Talks
MB2406183094 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Joao Lourenco, secretary of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA], has said there was a positive development in Lusaka. He was referring to the conclusion of discussions on housing. Joao Lourenco said, however, that we cannot expect the peace talks to conclude anytime soon. Regarding mediators and observers who approached South African President Nelson Mandela for assistance, Joao Lourenco said all this can be summed in one sentence: Things are complicated in Lusaka.

[Begin Lourenco recording] I interpret the decision to approach South African President Nelson Mandela for assistance as a sign that things in Lusaka are complicated. Things are complicated. Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, feels that talks are dragging on. An agreement should have been reached long ago.

Before being sworn in as the president of South Africa, Dr. Nelson Mandela expressed interest in assisting the Angolan people in the best way possible. I believe it was on the basis of that interest that Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye approached President Mandela in order to help reach a successful conclusion of the Angolan peace talks as soon as possible. [end recording]

Nelson Mandela is a well-known figure worldwide, and South Africa is a regional power. Joao Lourenco said these two factors can help to pressure Jonas Savimbi to lay down arms. President Nelson Mandela agreed to

cooperate. He will not come in with new diplomatic initiatives. He will only reinforce the ongoing process. The ruling party is happy with Nelson Mandela's readiness. His readiness was welcomed by the MPLA.

[Begin Lourenco recording] We welcomed his readiness to assist. We think—we have always said this—every form of assistance, every step that can truly contribute to the Angolan people finding a lasting peace as soon as possible is welcome. [end recording]

Speaking about the Lusaka peace talks, Joao Lourenco said that at present there is a positive sign. He said there is no information about the accord at the present, however. [passage omitted]

UNITA Official: No Agreement Reached With Government

MB2406190694 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent John Mukhela in Lusaka]

[Text] Even as the fighting in Angola has intensified, the talks between the government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels in Lusaka have continued or some might say have dragged on. Once again there were reports yesterday of an important agreement at the talks but once again it seems to have been a mirage. From Lusaka, John Mukhela telexed this report.

According to the UNITA delegation leader, Jorge Valentim, no factual agreement has in fact been reached between his team of negotiators and their Angolan Government counterparts, who are led by General Francisco Eugenio. Mr. Valentim told me this afternoon that under discussion was what is known as point 16 of the negotiations. He said that under point 16, demands had been tabled by UNITA to the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] government, urging it to give UNITA presidential and office accommodation for its top leadership. Mr. Valentim said the deliberations on point 16 have been taking place for the last two weeks. Tentative agreement on point 16 was reached, however, only yesterday. He said, however, that the government delegation has not been categorical on whether or not it could go along with the UNITA demands.

As of now, the government delegation said it would consider the UNITA proposals on the understanding that only a total of 124 offices and houses would be handed over by the government to the UNITA officials. Of these 124 offices and houses, Mr. Valentim said two-thirds were situated right in the Angolan capital, Luanda. He said that this was not a happy outcome and that the current offer fell far short of what UNITA required. It did not match UNITA's status and responsibilities, he said. The need for office and residential accommodation was an important part of the negotiation process because the government had nationalized all

UNITA-held property in 1975 when it originally came to power. Valentim added: Our leaders need proper facilities and they cannot continue indefinitely to operate from hotel rooms.

War Intensifies in Kuito; 30 Reported Killed

MB2406195394 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Military activities by Jonas Savimbi's men continue in the country. In Kuito the calm registered yesterday morning and afternoon was interrupted at dawn today with intense shelling by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. By mid-morning today, more than 200 shells had been fired against the city. More than 30 people have been killed by these shelling over the past 24 hours. Our correspondent Abel Abraao reports.

The people are still unable to come out in the streets in search of water, food, and firewood for their livelihood. Famine, just like the war, continues to kill people in Kuito. According to hospital sources, over the past 48 hours three children, five old people, and one pregnant women, totalling nine people, died of hunger at the hospital. The lack of medicines is also another problem facing the local people [words indistinct] by snipers determined to kill anyone trying to cross the street.

Calm Prevails in Cuanza Norte

MB2506075594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] The capital of Cuanza Norte is now calm following clashes over the past few days. The government forces expelled the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] soldiers from the outskirts of the city to a radius of about 70 km. During the follow up operations, 400 Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] soldiers were killed and others fled in disarray. Our correspondent reports from the area:

The UNITA rebels are dispersed, that is why they stopped shelling the city with long range weapons. The Angolan Armed Forces, National Police, and civilian defense are successfully conducting the follow up operations with the aim of widening the defense cordon for a radius of action over 30 km of the city so that the population may search for food in secure conditions.

23 Government Soldiers Killed in Cabinda

MB2506105294 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] The city of Choa, capital of Cabinda Province, two days ago was attacked by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] armed forces within the framework of defensive operations under way in the area. Americo Chivala, Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel correspondent in the area, says that during 23 June's attack at least 23 Popular Movement

for the Liberation of Angola soldiers were killed and several others wounded. The clashes lasted about 30 minutes and were dominated by rocket and mortar attacks. For a month now, the troops of the Luanda communist regime have been involved in an offensive against areas under the control of UNITA, which has already claimed the lives of hundreds of innocent civilians. The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola are carrying out defensive operations to protect the civilian population in Cabinda.

Fighting in Kuito, Cabinda Updated

MB2506161794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] The situation in the city of Kuito has changed from critical to tragic. In the military field, there has not been a significant alteration over the past 24 hours. Jonas Savimbi's soldiers are still shelling the city, the civilians are still dying as a result of war and hunger, and people have not been buried in the graveyards for a long time. Our correspondent reports from the area:

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] The city has once again been violently shaken by B-30 and other guns of various calibers belonging to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] rebels. Although the shelling is less intense than in the first days of the clashes, between yesterday and today more than 10 civilians were killed and 18 others seriously wounded. Reliable sources of the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] Operation Command yesterday told our newsdesk that UNITA rebels are once again preparing to take over the city of Kuito. Second Commander Lucume, however, has said the FAA is following closely the Black Cockerel's actions so as to respond adequately should such an attempt take place. So many people have been killed in Kuito that there is almost no place to bury the dead. For instance, one of the warehouses that served as a cemetery over the past few days has no more place for graves. The city of Kuito is facing a tragic situation, with residents being killed by war and famine. [end recording]

On the battlefield, the government forces are still inflicting heavy losses on Black Cockerel soldiers. A source from the FAA General Staff says that government forces have retaken Mupa and Cuvelai in Cunene Province, and Zela commune in Bengo Province. Meanwhile, JORNAL DE ANGOLA quotes the same source as saying that in Malanje Province, UNITA guerrillas are laying mines over roads leading to farms, particularly on the Quessua Road of the city of Malanje.

About 700 guerrillas of N'Zita Tiago's Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave-Armed Forces of Cabinda, and the Renewed Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave of (Jose Pimburio) surrendered to government authorities in Cabinda Province. This was revealed yesterday by Cabinda Provincial Governor Augusto da Silva Tomas. Tomas said the armed operations carried out by N'Zita Tiago's armed faction in the

north of Cabinda will not affect the current process for future talks on the Cabinda conflict.

UNITA Launches Attack on Commune

MB2606123494 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Faria Horacio in Kuito]

[Text] Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] has finally launched its attack against the defenseless residents of Kunje Commune after deploying a large number of men and war materiel around it. The rebel attack, which is supported by intense heavy artillery fire, began at about 0500 today and has continued unabated. Fire is so intense that clouds of smoke and flames can be seen from the city of Kuito, suggesting that houses are on fire. Clashes are in progress right now. Shots fired by light [words indistinct] weapons can be heard very close to the city. There are no reports about the outcome of the ongoing clashes.

Mozambique

Renamo Soldiers Mutiny in Tete Assembly Area

MB2506113994 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Dias Mahachi in Tete]

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama's soldiers confined in Sinjale assembly area, Mutarara District, Tete Province have barricaded the Cambulatsitse-Mutarara road since yesterday demanding food. Two vehicles belonging to World Vision International carrying seeds and agricultural implements have been held hostages by the soldiers as a way of forcing the UN Operations in Mozambique [Unomoz] to solve the logistical problems in the center.

Antonio Mafutabanda, Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] delegate in Tete Province, says that the Sinjale assembly area has more than 500 soldiers and was opened on 13 June. On the occasion, Unomoz officials pledged to supply to the soldiers food and there was none. Unomoz officials in the city of Tete told our reporters that a food delivery for the center had been planned for 27 June. The Renamo delegate in Tete Province says this is contrary to what was agreed upon on 13 June. Meanwhile, the blue helmets stationed in Tete to maintain peace, a Renamo delegate, and a Renamo adviser to the provincial governor left for the Sinjale assembly area this morning to solve the food problem the Renamo soldiers face. A Unomoz logistical official stated that the Renamo soldiers in Sinjale will receive their food ration today. In Tete Province there

are two other assembly areas for Renamo soldiers, one in Chioco, Changara District, and Muchena, Macanga District.

Chissano Changes Mind on National Unity Government

MB2506145894 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano has said that the issue of an eventual government of national unity has not been definitely put aside. The head of state said what is important is that the government to be formed after the October elections should be able to maintain stability, peace, and correct operation, so that it can build a better future for the Mozambican people. President Joaquim Chissano said this in Maputo yesterday at a concert on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of national independence.

New Party, Mozambique Democratic Alliance, Formed

MB2606052394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] A new political party has been created in the country. It is called the Mozambique Democratic Alliance, ADM. According to a document sent to our news desk, the ADM intends to build a state on the rule of law, based on the principles enshrined in the Human Rights Charter and the Convention on Prevention of Crimes of Genocide. The ADM Party says it defends equal opportunities for all Mozambicans in all fields of social life.

Zimbabwe

Opposition Calls For 'Army' To Counter ZANU-PF

MB2506173794 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] The leader of the opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement, Mr. Edgar Tekere, has proposed the establishment of an army to counter possible attacks by the governing ZANU-PF [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front] party in the run-up to the country's general elections.

Mr. Tekere called on all able-bodied Zimbabweans, irrespective of their political affiliation, to form what he called an Angels With Swords army to retaliate to any attacks by President Robert Mugabe's ZANU-PF party. He suggested that members should be armed with axes, spears, arrows, and firearms, but not bombs. Mr. Tekere's call came only days after two other opposition parties had told their supporters to arm themselves with spears and arrows in case of attacks by ZANU-PF youths.

President Mugabe has already sounded a warning that his supporters have more and even better weapons than their rivals.

Liberia

ECOMOG Foils Attempt To Destabilize Monrovia

*AB2706105394 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 27 Jun 94*

[Text] A joint security operation with ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring] and local security yesterday foiled an attempt to destabilize the peace and security of Monrovia. The press secretary to the field commander of ECOMOG, Mr. Francis Akinola, confirmed the operation, and said [words indistinct]. According to him, ECOMOG, the (?state security), and the Defense Ministry [word indistinct] carried out a surprise dawn check on some residences in Paynesville, including that of Mr. Alhaji Koromah. Mr. Akinola told journalists that some 26,000 thousand rounds of ammunition, 30 assorted weapons, 18 RPG launchers, 16 RPG bombs, and some communication equipment were found during the operation. Those arrested by ECOMOG are helping the peace keepers in efforts to ascertain where more arms and ammunition may have been kept.

Meanwhile, ECOMOG is again calling on the public to provide information that will [words indistinct] in and around Monrovia.

ULIMO Faction Attacks ECOMOG Forces

*AB2606173094 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1200 GMT 26 Jun 94*

[Text] As factional fighting continues in ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], the West African ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] force is reported to have been attacked by the Mandingo faction of Alhaji Koromah in Brewerville, Montserrado County. According to reports, the attack by ULIMO on ECOMOG broke out when ECOMOG tried to prevent Koromah's Mandingo fighters from killing civilians whom they accused of being members of the Krahn tribe, their major rival. ECOMOG soldiers told newsmen that they had to fire back at the Mandingo fighters in self-defense, and eyewitnesses said Koromah's faction suffered heavy casualties. Scores of civilians are reported to have been massacred in the clashes.

Meanwhile, the Liberian State Council says those responsible for the massacre in Virginia and Brewerville areas will be brought to justice.

State Council Condemns Killings Outside Monrovia

*AB2506192994 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1400 GMT 25 Jun 94*

[Text] The Council of State has expressed its horror at the news that, during the night of 22 June, a number of innocent displaced Liberians at the displaced people's

center in the vicinity of [place name indistinct] outside Monrovia were brutally slaughtered by a group of persons said to belong to a faction of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia].

In a statement on the incident, Councilor Phillip Banks, who has [words indistinct] for the Ministry of Justice, condemned the killings, noting that such acts not only violate the Cotonou accord, but are wanton violations of several international human rights conventions to which Liberia has subscribed, as well as the violation of human rights of innocent unarmed civilians.

The councilman further noted that there can be no justification for the barbaric atrocities committed against unarmed, helpless civilians. The council, he said, has therefore instructed the Ministry of Justice to launch a full-scale investigation into the incident, and to promptly bring the perpetrators to justice.

Inveighing the directives of the Ministry of Justice, Councilor Banks stated that the violators must be subjected to trial for war crimes and crimes against humanity. He called on the Ministry of Justice to put necessary machinery in place for that purpose. The council, he noted, will not countenance such acts against the citizens of Liberia.

The councilor noted further that while the council has not pursued persons who violated the human rights of the Liberian people prior to the Cotonou accord and since the council's seating, it has no intention of permitting the perpetration of crimes against innocent Liberians by any person or a group of persons, or of allowing those who have committed such crimes to go unpunished.

Such war crimes, the council emphasized, are not covered by the amnesty provisions in the Cotonou Accord and therefore those identified as being responsible for the perpetration of such crimes must be formally charged, and when convicted should bear the full punishments prescribed by the relevant international conventions and the penal laws of Liberia. This, he said, includes punishment by death.

Meanwhile, the councilman has instructed Justice Ministry to have the area where the incident occurred and other areas of the city securely covered and monitored, so as to avoid a repetition of the incident. The council, he said, is calling upon ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] to (?fully) coordinate with and involve Liberians [words indistinct], especially personnel of the Liberia National Police, to ensure the maximum protection of all citizens and residents in areas under the control of ECOMOG and the Liberia National Transitional Government.

Niger

President Prepared To Send Troops to Rwanda

AB2606134594 Paris AFP in French 1053 GMT 26 Jun 94

[Text] Niamey, 26 Jun (AFP)—Niger President Mahamane Ousmane announced in Niamey today that Niger is prepared to send troops to participate in the French military and humanitarian operation launched on 23 June in Rwanda if France makes the request.

At a news conference, President Mahamane Ousmane stated that they were prepared to send "a contingent or any other form of contribution depending on the exact request that will be made to us."

He added: "The French initiative deserves to be supported. We have given it our moral and political support. At this stage, no other request has been made to us."

President Mahamane Ousmane made the statement at the departure ceremony for Burkinaabe President Blaise Compaore, who left Niamey this morning at the end of a 24-hour visit.

When interviewed on his position on the French operation, President Compaore expressed his "support" for the operation but explained that Burkina Faso did "not have the means" to contribute materially. He said France was "forced" to make this decision due to the "resignation of the international community," including Africa.

He added: "What are Africans doing? People are killing each other, but Africans are doing nothing to intervene. That was why France was forced to make that decision."

He further stated: "Whether the solution comes from Africans or from others, we think that if anything can be done to save people now, it should be done."

Nigeria

Abiola Challenges Arrest, Decries Abuse of Rights

AB2406215594 Paris AFP in French 2044 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Lagos, 24 Jun (AFP)—Moshood Abiola, Nigeria's main opposition figure, today initiated an action at the Supreme Court challenging his arrest and demanding his release, the GUARDIAN EXPRESS daily newspaper reports. In a statement read on his behalf by Gani Fawehinmi, a renowned Lagos lawyer, the Muslim multimillionaire who was arrested in the night of 23 June and transferred to the federal capital, Abuja, asked the Supreme Court to rule that he be released. He described his arrest as a gross violation of his rights to personal freedom as laid down by the 1979 Constitution and the African Charter on Human Rights and the

Rights of Peoples. Moshood Abiola, who declared himself "president of Nigeria and commander in chief of the Armed Forces" on 11 June, also maintains that his arrest and detention interfere with his right to participate in the country's political life, the evening newspaper reported. The hearing has been set for 26 June.

Court Orders Police To Produce Abiola

AB2506201294 Dakar PANA in English 1236 GMT 25 Jun 94

[Text] Lagos, 25 June (PANA)—A Nigerian federal high court in Lagos on Friday [24 June] ordered the Nigerian police to produce detained millionaire politician, Moshood Abiola on Thursday. [sentence as received]

The order by Justice Tajudeen Odunowo on the police inspector-general, Ibrahim Coomassie, followed an application by lawyer Kolawole Ajayi on behalf of Abiola.

The judge fixed hearing on the application on the same day, Thursday, after he rejected Ajayi's plea to discharge Abiola from police custody.

Another Lagos federal high court is expected Monday to begin hearing yet another suit by Abiola challenging his arrest and detention on 23 June.

The suit was filed by Lagos lawyer, Gani Fawehinmi, who told the court that Abiola's arrest was unconstitutional and a breach of his fundamental human rights.

Pro-democracy groups in Nigeria, including the National Democratic Coalition and the Campaign for Democracy, which are leading the campaign for the military to surrender power to Abiola, have protested the arrest of the millionaire, who claimed victory in Nigeria's 12 June 1993 election, which was annulled by the country's military.

Meanwhile, there were indications that Abiola, who reportedly proclaimed himself president of Nigeria on 11 June, could go on trial either in Lagos or Abuja, next week.

But in an interview with PANA on Saturday, the deputy inspector-general of police operations, Nuhu Aliyu, declined to confirm the report, but said that the police were trying to ensure law and order throughout the country.

Aliyu said the police would tighten security against those he called "paid thugs," who may try to cause a breach of public peace.

Apart from reported scattered protests in Lagos, especially in Ikeja, near Abiola's residence, north of Lagos, on Thursday and Friday, no major incidents were reported in the country.

Abiola's Daughter Interviewed

AB2406164094 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 24 Jun 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Well, all week police were looking for Chief Abiola. Now his supporters and family are looking for the chief. His whereabouts since his arrest have been unknown. There were various reports that he had been flown off to Abuja and that he stayed in a police cell in Lagos. On the line, Mary Harper asked Chief Abiola's eldest child, Mrs. Lola Abiola Edewo what the family's information was.

[Begin recording] [Edewo] I have no idea as to where he is. The last we saw of him was on the day that he was arrested because I was one of the people who escorted him as far as where he was taken, which was in Lagos here.

[Harper] Where exactly did you follow him to?

[Edewo] We followed him to Alagbon, the FIB, which is the police-cum-security headquarters.

[Harper] And do you have any idea where he was taken to from this police headquarters?

[Edewo] Even though we were all there, we didn't know when he was moved. It was much later, about four in the morning, because we were all out keeping a night vigil. Then one of the police people who had come to arrest him from home said we better leave because he is no longer here, that they've taken him to Abuja.

[Harper] Have you been in touch with the police since his arrest?

[Edewo] Yes. I was there about half a dozen times yesterday to the same site where he was taken where we had followed him to just to double check that information. Each time I went I was told, he is still in Abuja. On the sixth trip the policeman at the reception there said to me, Madam, he is still in Abuja, he is not here. Don't bother.

[Harper] Do you have any indication when your father might be brought to trial?

[Edewo] Huh, nobody is telling us anything. I have no idea. [end recording]

Workers Union Demands Abiola's Release

AB2506212194 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 25 Jun 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Yet another group in Nigeria has come out in support of Chief Abiola, the self-proclaimed president who was detained on Thursday [23 June] by the military government. This is the oil workers union, Nupeng [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Workers], who are demanding Abiola's release, and are threatening to go on strike. But the ruling council, led by General Sani Abacha, is refusing to recognize Abiola's claims to the presidency, based on the abortive election held last June. On the line, Dan Isaacs asked Nupeng's secretary general, Frank Ovie Kokori, how much support there is for the strike:

[Begin recording] [Kokori] We have been able to go round the whole country and got the mandate of all the zonal councils of Nupeng saying that if Abiola is not released—not only just being released—that he should actualize his mandate, and that the present head of state, who is the leader the junta, should work out a program for handing over peacefully to Abiola within the next seven days.

[Isaacs] So are you and the union threatening to do if the government does not accede to these demands within the seven days you talk about?

[Kokori, laughing] Normally, as a trade union we only have one option: the last option, which is the historical role of trade unions all over the world, and that is resorting to industrial action. I mean, an industrial action that will be sustained by all means until the people on the other side will see reason with us in the country.

[Isaacs] Why do you think the government should take your action seriously? After all, you have taken industrial action in the past and been forced to backtrack and give up.

[Kokori] No, we never gave up. Nupeng never gave up, you know that, and what happened was that the present head of state called Nupeng at that time and assured Nupeng that the issue of June 12 would be revisited, but the whole thing became a fraud. The government deceived every person....

[Isaacs, interrupting] But in reality, you know that industrial action like this will (?last) a little while, and in the end the government will win because it has the power.

[Kokori] Well, that is your own view as a pressman. I am laborist [as heard] and I have been in labor struggles for years. (?It is only) an industrial union that could paralyze the soul of the Nigerian economy.

[Isaacs] So (?your main intention) is to bring the Nigerian economy to its knees?

[Kokori] I don't know. You predict that, but we say the people themselves are not happy with....[pauses] A man who is given the mandate, he is now being used and he is now being tortured as the underdog, whereas people who never had the mandate are now enjoying or ruling the country under the barrel of the gun. It is unfair. I think you will agree with me.

[Isaacs] And your industrial action will continue until the government says it will honor the June 12, or until it [words indistinct] the June 12 presidential election of last year?

[Kokori] If the way you are going [words indistinct], and those of us who are speaking to you now, we don't even know what will happen to us tomorrow. So we are on a struggle, on a historic political struggle. So it is not a [word indistinct], you will agree with me. It is a serious struggle we are all in (?for). [end recording]

Former Leader Supports Abacha, Abiola's Arrest

*AB2406191594 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Excerpts] The pressure on General Abacha's military government in Nigeria from opposition pro-democrat groups is beginning to rise. It follows the arrest of self-declared president, Chief Moshood Abiola, yesterday. Chief Abiola is widely believed to have won last June's annulled presidential election. [passage omitted] Now the protests are beginning, as Sola Odunfa reports from Lagos.

[Begin Odunfa recording] Leading the protests is the National Democratic Coalition, Nadeco, which has appealed to the international community to show and intensify its support for the restoration of democracy in Nigeria under a government headed by Chief Abiola. [passage omitted]

However, the government is not without support. The most prominent of its supporters so far is former military head of state, Gen. Yakubu Gowon, who was toppled in 1976. He defended Chief Abiola's arrest on the grounds that the government had a duty to maintain law and order. He appealed to Nigerians to support the national constitutional conference opening in Abuja on Monday [27 June] as the only way to terminate military rule permanently.

Meanwhile, the Federal High Court sitting in Lagos has ordered that all six former senators charged with treason be remanded in police custody. The court revoked the bail it granted earlier to three of them, including former Senate President Ameh Ebute. Their trial has been adjourned to 6 July. The three others, a former civilian state governor, Segun Osoba, and two retired air force officers, charged with forming an illegal political association were released on bail. Their own trial will begin on 12 July. [end recording]

Security Boosted Following Abiola's Arrest

AB2406141094 Paris AFP in English 1326 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Lagos, 24 Jun (AFP)—Police armoured vehicles were posted on main roads in Lagos on Friday [24 June] as authorities boosted security following the arrest of Moshood Abiola, believed to have won Nigeria's free elections, local residents said. Some police armoured vehicles were stationed along Ikorodu Road, a main thoroughfare that crosses the city, and in the residential

Oshodi district, as well as along Western Avenue, a major artery into the commercial nerve-centre of the city, they said.

The move came after Abiola was picked up from his residence Thursday by policemen after addressing a public rally in Lagos attended by about 2,000 people. Abiola was arrested after vowing on June 11 to set up an alternative government, ahead of the anniversary of presidential elections of June 12, 1993 which were annulled by the military government.

Officials said that the extra security might be connected to a visit by Nigerian leader General Sani Abacha to military officers and men at the Ikeja military cantonment, as part of his efforts to rally military support to his government. But groups of policemen, armed with guns, teargas canisters and batons were also seen Friday morning—stationed about 100 metres (yards) apart—on some other major Lagos streets, particularly in trouble-prone areas of northern Lagos, residents said. They also noticed a sudden increase in numbers of armed soldiers usually deployed to protect government agencies such as the central bank, the national radio and television stations, and the national telephone and electricity companies.

Newspapers here Friday published the photograph of Kudiratu, a wife of Chief Abiola, leading a group of peaceful protesters on Thursday in some streets around the Lagos residence of the politician in Ikeja. The GUARDIAN reported that hundreds of people in Ibadan, capital of western Oyo State, on Thursday booed and jeered General Abacha.

The head of state, accompanied by his service chiefs, has been paying visits to other major military formations in various parts of the country since Wednesday.

Abacha Ends Military Tour, Vows To Leave ECOMOG

*AB2406190094 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in
English 1800 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Text] The head of state, General Sani Abacha, today rounded off his tour of military formations in the country with a visit to Lagos State.

Addressing members of the Armed Forces and the police at the Ikeja Military Cantonment, Gen. Abacha said his visit was to emphasize the importance of the forthcoming constitutional conference. He said the conference would examine central issues such as revenue allocation, alleged cases of marginalization by ethnic groups, power sharing, as well as the suitable form of government to be adopted. Gen. Abacha said that from past experiences, the presidential system of government was very [word indistinct] and quite inconsistent with the present economic realities of the moment. The head of state assured military personnel in Lagos State that urgent measures had already been taken to ensure their welfare.

On Liberia, Gen. Abacha said Nigeria would soon pull out of the West African Peacekeeping Force, ECOMOG, in Liberia. Gen. Abacha said now that the United Nations had indicated its intention to send peacekeepers to Liberia, it was natural that Nigeria pulled out. He said Nigeria had contributed and, indeed, sacrificed a lot of human and

material resources to maintain peace in that country. The head of state confirmed that Nigeria had begun the reduction of its military strength in the ECOMOG, saying further contingents would not be sent to that country. Gen. Abacha expressed optimism that the Liberian warring factions would solve their problems in their own way.

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